

53-15092

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## EXHIBIT A

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

# PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT  
(PCT Rule 71.1)

To:  
  
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Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) 20.02.2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.  
PCT/US 02/35404

International filing date (day/month/year)  
05.11.2002


Priority date (day/month/year)  
29.11.2001

Applicant  
PILKINGTON NORTH AMERICA, INC.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**  
  
The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).  
  
Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.  
  
For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.  
  
The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

RECEIVED

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  
  
 European Patent Office  
D-80298 Munich  
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**MARSHALL & MELHORN, LLC**  
FEB 25 2004  


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US 02/35404	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 05.11.2002	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 29.11.2001
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C03C17/00, C03C17/00		
Applicant PILKINGTON NORTH AMERICA, INC.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I  Basis of the opinion
- II  Priority
- III  Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV  Lack of unity of invention
- V  Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI  Certain documents cited
- VII  Certain defects in the international application
- VIII  Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 22.05.2003	Date of completion of this report 20.02.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Telephone No. +49 89 2399- 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US 02/35404

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, Pages**

1-10 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-19 filed with telefax on 22.08.2003

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/5-5/5 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/US 02/35404**

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5.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-3, 17-19
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	4-16
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: JP(A) 2001146439

D2: EP-A-0577187

From the computer translation of the fulltext Japanese patent publication available from the intellectual property digital library site offered by the Japanese Patent Office it is apparent that U.V. metal halide lamps are applied to automotive glazings to strip off hydrophobic functional coatings. From this it appears implicit that the glazing is subsequently to be joined to an elastomeric item such as a gasket and that the treatment with U.V. light is to improve the adhesive properties of the coated glass near its edges or wherever further items are to be joined to the glass. Consequently the subject-matter of Claims 1 to 3 and 17 to 19 is considered to be anticipated by the prior art according to document D1. (see cited passages in search report).

In the light of the further teaching of document D2 the subject-matter according to the remaining Claims is not inventive with respect to the prior art according to document D1.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for removing a selected portion of a functional organic coating having hydrophobic properties from the surface of a glass substrate, comprising contacting said coating with short wavelength ultra-violet (UV) light and adhering an item to at least a portion of the area from which the coating has been removed.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the functional organic coating having hydrophobic properties comprises a polysiloxane.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein a source of said short wavelength UV light is an excimer lamp.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein a source of said short wavelength UV light is a laser.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the dominant wavelength of said short wavelength UV light is from 5 nm to 254 nm.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the dominant wavelength of said short wavelength UV light is from 100 nm to 200 nm.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the dominant wavelength of said short wavelength UV light is 172 nm.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the water contact angle on said substrate carrying said coating prior to contacting said coating with said short wavelength UV light is greater than 100°.
- 5
9. The method of claim 8 wherein the water contact angle on said substrate after said coating has been selectively removed by contact with said short wavelength UV light is less than 30° on those
- 10
- portions of said substrate from which said hydrophobic coating has been removed.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein an adhesion promoting primer compound is applied to a portion of said
- 15
- substrate from which said functional organic coating has been removed.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein an elastomeric member is bonded to said portion of said substrate to which
- 20
- the adhesion promoting primer has been applied.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein said elastomeric member is a gasket.
- 25
13. The method of claim 1, wherein said selected portion of said functional organic coating is removed by said contacting in less than 120 seconds.

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14. A method of removing a selected portion of an functional organic coating having hydrophobic properties from the surface of a glass substrate, comprising contacting said coating with UV light  
5 having a dominant wavelength between 5 nm and 254 nm and thereafter adhering an item to at least a portion of the area of the substrate from which the coating has been removed.
- 10 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the dominant wavelength of said UV light is between 100 nm and 200 nm.
- 15 16. The method of claim 14 wherein the item adhered to the substrate is an item of hardware.
17. A glass substrate carrying a functional organic coating, said substrate having two major surfaces, said coating being applied to one of said two major  
20 surfaces, wherein a selected portion of said coated surface has been exposed to short wavelength UV light for a predetermined period of time in order to remove said selected portion of said coating from said substrate and further wherein an item is adhered to  
25 at least a portion of the area of the substrate from which the coating has been removed.
18. The substrate of claim 16 wherein said functional organic coating has hydrophobic properties.  
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19. The substrate of claim 16 wherein said substrate is an automotive glazing.